

Working to bring affordable housing options and needed jobs to Kankakee, Rep. Debbie Halvorson (IL-11) joined State Senator Toi Hutchinson, State Representative Lisa Dugan, Mayor Samuel Payton, and other local officials and community members at the ground breaking of Sandstone Hills, a single-family rent-to-own community of 29 homes made possible by federal Recovery Act funding.

"A critical part of the American Dream is the opportunity to have a home our families can call their own," said Halvorson. "The funding provided by the Recovery Act I voted for will offer an opportunity for families to purchase homes they can afford, at a time when they need help the most."

Funding for the Sandstone Hills development was provided through a combination of \$6.34 million in federal Recovery Act funding, and over a million in funding from the State of Illinois. The funding, fought for by Halvorson, will create an estimated 75 jobs and create greater economic development for the Hopkins Park community. Sandstone Hills will fill a need for affordable housing in a critically underserved area, where low-income and rural populations lack affordable housing choices.

"I want to thank Congresswoman Halvorson for standing up and supporting the Recovery Act", said Jacquelyn Sneed, a Pembroke Township resident who is leading the project. "Without the Federal Recovery Act, there is no way this project would have happened. Hopkins Park needs affordable housing and by supporting the Recovery Act, Debbie Halvorson helped address this critical issue in our community."

A longtime supporter of affordable housing for Illinois families, Congresswoman Halvorson has helped deliver nearly \$750,000 in Recovery Act funding to help families in need access affordable housing, and will continue to fight to make housing more accessible for all of her constituents.